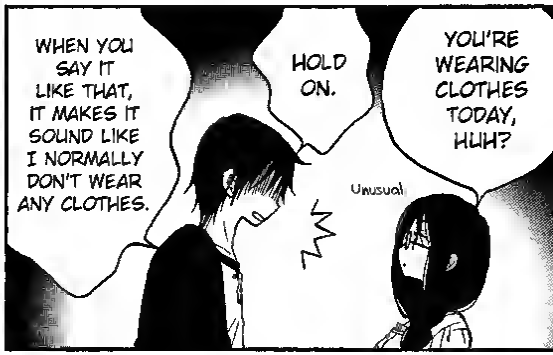
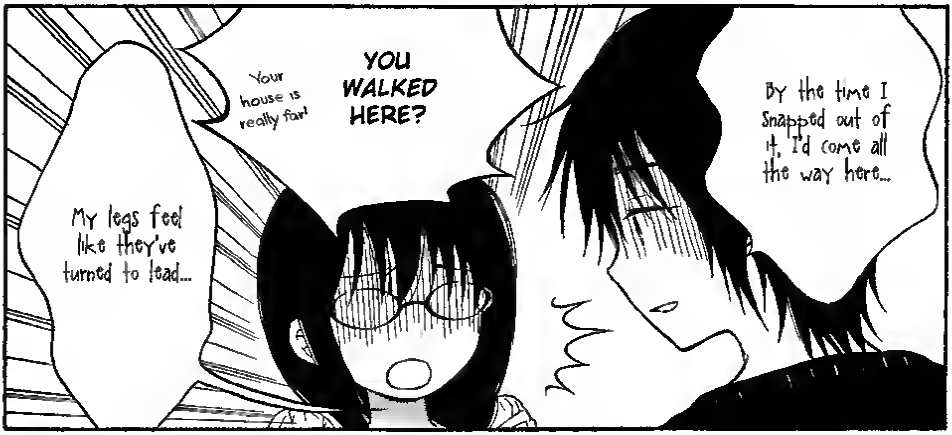
Kawaii-Scans
We need you!
We're currently in search of quality checkers or former editors interested in doing some QC work with us.
Please email sachiko@sachiko.me or contact us @ http://kawaii.ca

Uwaaah!
Waaah!
MAN...
FALLING DOWN ISN'T A REASON TO CRY LIKE THAT.
IT'S NOT THAT.
sniffle...
I'M CRYING 'CAUSE YOU KEEP LEAVING ME BEHIND, NII-CHAN...
UWAAAAH!
CRYING AGAIN...
NO MORE CRYING!
Chapter 20
Listen,
YOUR BIG BROTHER WILL TELL YOU AN INTERESTING STORY.

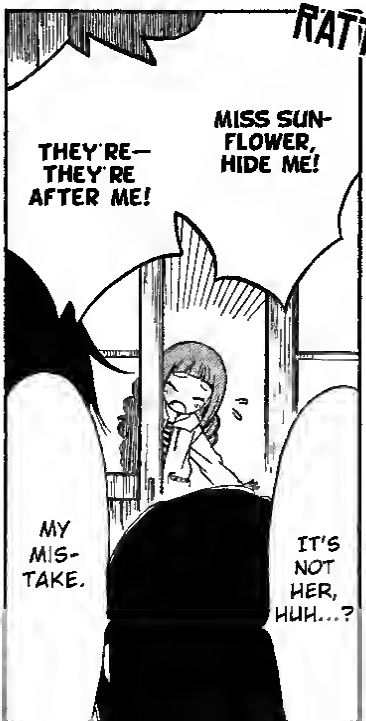
RATTLE
RATTLE
!!!
OH!
MATSURI?
CLACK
SORRY, I MADE A MISTAKE...
I thought it was around the time for Matsuri to arrive.
...IT'S NOT HER...
WELCOME, NII-SAN.

MY WORK WAS STARTING TO TAKE SHAPE, SO I DECIDED TO HEAD TO THE NEARBY CONVENIENCE STORE FOR A BIT.
I LEFT MY HOUSE IN A DAZE...
plod
plod


WHEN YOU SAY IT LIKE THAT, IT MAKES IT SOUND LIKE I NORMALLY DON'T WEAR ANY CLOTHES.
HOLD ON.
YOU'RE WEARING CLOTHES TODAY, HUH?
Unusual


Your house is really far!
YOU WALKED HERE?
My legs feel like they've turned to lead...
By the time I snapped out of it, I'd come all the way here...

SAKURA, DON'T PLAY IN THE STORE.
SORRY.


RATTLE
THEY'RE— THEY'RE AFTER ME!
MISS SUNFLOWER, HIDE ME!
MY MISTAKE.
IT'S NOT HER, HUH...?

THUD
MATSURI?
THUD
THUD

IT REMINDS ME OF WHEN YOU WERE CUTE.
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT CUSTOMERS THIS LITTLE WOULD COME TO THE SUNFLOWER BOOKERY?
...
THUD
THUD
UD
WHO'RE YOU, GRAMPS?
stab
staaare
OH, SHE FOUND ME!
SAKURA-CHAN, NO FAIR!
THERE'S NO HIDING IN THE BOOKSTORE, REMEMBER?

CLATTER
A chair
HERE YOU GO.
THANKS.
SLUMP
YUP.
SEE YOU LATER, MISS !SUNFLOWER
...
TAP
TAP
...HEY,
WHAT BOOK WERE YOU READING BEFORE?
AS ALWAYS,
SHE'S BASICALLY IMPASSIVE, BUT...

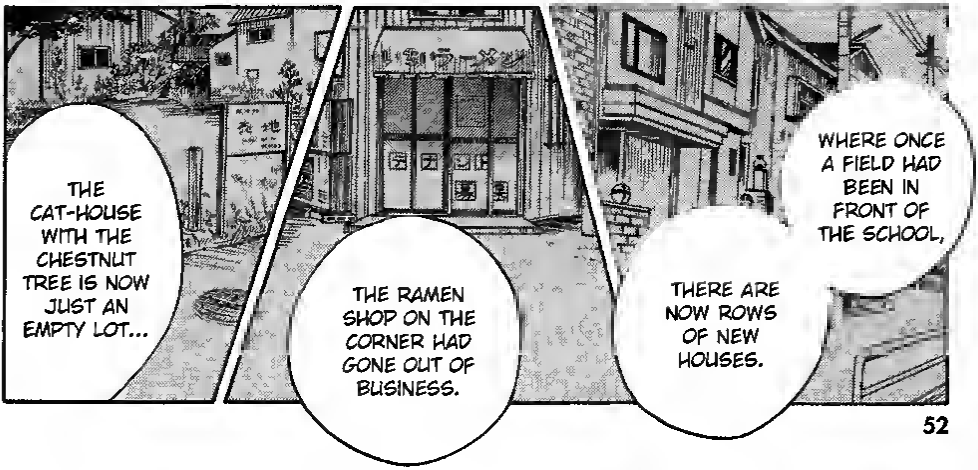
Kuroizato-Sensei's Book
BEFORE...?
OH.
COUGH
HACK
WHAT'S WRONG?
Are you OK?
DID YOU...
HAVE A PLACE IN MIND WHEN YOU SET YOUR STORY?

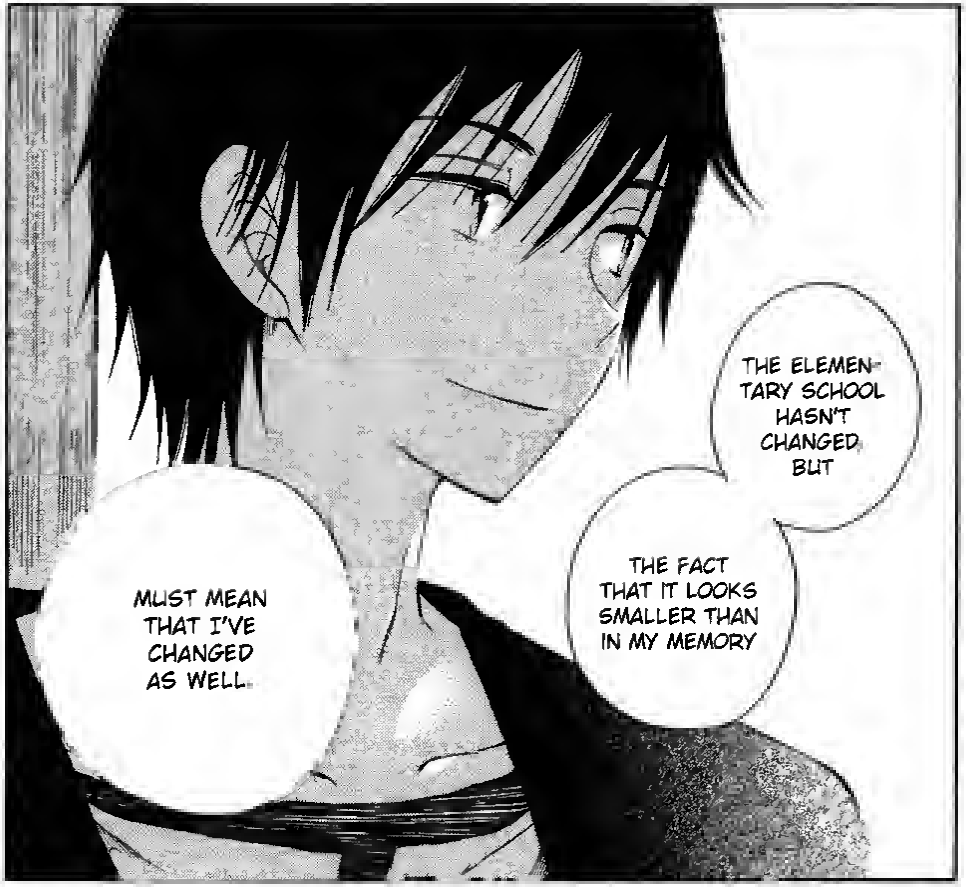
La la la
GOOD AFTER-NOON, MISS SUNFLOWER!
HUH?
SOMEHOW, IT SEEMED KIND OF NOSTALGIC.
I GUESS IT WAS JUST MY IMAGINA-TION.
...HUH?
Without that, you're just a regular big brother!
Um... I'm sorry?
Meh!
That's kind of mean.
JEEZ...
YOU AREN'T WEARING A KIMONO, SO I COULDN'T TELL.
IT'S MISS SUNFLOWER'S BROTHER, ISN'T IT?

房書りわまひ
OH!
IT'S AL-READY FIVE O'CLOCK?
AMAZING! MATSURI-CHAN, YOU CAN TELL THE TIME WITH YOUR STOMACH?
GROWL
GROWL
GROWL
NOT AT ALL!
I HEARD THE "LET'S GO HOME" MUSIC!
BLUSH
MATSURI'S EMBAR-RASSED...
I...
I AM A YOUNG LADY, YOU KNOW...
IS THAT RIGHT?
MUSIC?
"THE SU~N SE~TS
BEHIND THE FA~R MOUN-TAI~NS," YOU KNOW?
IT'S DVORAK'S SYMPHONY NO. 9, "FROM THE NEW WORLD."
The second movement
RATTLE
OH, YEAH. I CAN HEAR IT...

THE SETTING OF THAT BOOK
IS A PLACE FROM MY MEMORIES.
...

I WENT THERE NOT TOO LONG AGO.
A LOT OF THINGS HAD CHANGED.


THE CAT-HOUSE WITH THE CHESTNUT TREE IS NOW JUST AN EMPTY LOT...
THE RAMEN SHOP ON THE CORNER HAD GONE OUT OF BUSINESS.
WHERE ONCE A FIELD HAD BEEN IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL,
THERE ARE NOW ROWS OF NEW HOUSES.


THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HASN'T CHANGED, BUT
THE FACT THAT IT LOOKS SMALLER THAN IN MY MEMORY
MUST MEAN THAT I'VE CHANGED AS WELL.

YOU AND THIS PLACE HAVE CHANGED, TOO.
?
...

...YEAH. I'M NOT SAYING THAT IT'S A SAD THING.

LOTS OF THINGS CHANGE WHEN TIME PASSES.

HAVE CHANGED, TOO.
THE SUN-FLOWER BOOKERY
DIDN'T USE TO BE A HANGOUT FOR PEOPLE LIKE THOSE GIRLS FROM BEFORE OR MATSURI-CHAN.
AND YOU

MATSURI-
COME ON YOUR BUS IS HERE
SEE YOU TOMORROW, MISS SUN-FLOWER!
BYE TO YOU, TOO, ONII-SAN.

Vroom
WAS THERE A RUMOR LIKE THAT?
Kids love scary stories, huh?
YOU TOLD ME THAT.
DID YOU FORGET?
THE CAT-HOUSE THAT'S GONE NOW,
YOU KNOW, A GHOST LIVED THERE.
...THE CAT-HOUSE.

MAN, I'M HUNGRY...
RAMEN
!
TMP TMP TMP
AH. ONII-CHAN! A CAT...!
HMM? OH, YEAH.
THE SU~N SE~TSU
BE-HIND THE
FA~R MOUN-TAI~NS
THE SKY WAS STUDDED WITH STARS...

A GHOST LIVING HERE.
?!
NO WAY! THERE'S...
DO ONLY CATS LIVE HERE?
THAT'S A CAT-HOUSE.
WHAT? SHE'S HAPPY...?
I was trying to scare her
A... AMAZING!
YEAH, EVEN THOUGH HE DOESN'T HAVE A BODY — SINCE HE'S A GHOST.
DOES THE GHOST FEED THE CATS?
OH, IS THAT RIGHT?
Ow ow ow!
That hurts!
grind
grind
grind
Why, you...!
...I WASN'T CRYING.
DID YOU STOP CRYING?
?!
That's not all! The cats that live here can walk on two legs!
It's too amaz-ing...

On the way home,
so that my little sister would stop crying,
I'd make up silly stories
and tell them until we got to our house.
That's right.
That was the beginning.
It was only the start, but
that's definitely what made me
want to be a writer.

OF COURSE I REMEMBER.
YOU REALLY REMEMBER IT WELL!
YOU WERE ONLY SIX YEARS OLD!
Come on, stop already.
UWAAAAAAH!
Oh, that's right. The apartment building shaped like a pencil,
actually had the hideout of a secret society in the basement!
Even if the scenery changes,
I'll remember.

...
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY CUTE LITTLE SISTER.
...HUH...?
URK
YUP, JUST THE REACTION I EXPECTED.
I GUESS SOME THINGS DON'T CHANGE AFTER ALL.
?
I FEEL A LITTLE BETTER.

OH? WERE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?
THAT HAPPENS TO YOU TOO, HUH?
...WHO EXACTLY DO YOU THINK I AM?
...MY OLDER BROTHER?
HAHA!
I'M GOING TO GO HOME AND WORK.
Onii-chan...

Several minutes later

A butterfly!

And you used to be so much cuter...

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20
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